

U.S. Application No. 09/978,159
Amendment dated December 19, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated June 20, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (original): A composition comprising:

- a) at least one hydrocarbon-substituted carboxylic acid anhydride or the alkali salt thereof;
- b) at least one aliphatic acid amide;
- c) caustic soda;
- d) at least one C₁₂ or higher fatty alcohol;
- e) at least one C₁₀ or lower alcohol cosolvent;
- f) at least one preservative; and
- g) water.

Claim 2 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein hydrocarbon-substitution of the carboxylic acid anhydride or salt thereof comprises an alpha olefin.

Claim 3 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein hydrocarbon-substitution of the carboxylic acid anhydride or salt thereof is with a substituent selected from polyethylene, polypropylene, polyisopropylene, polybutylene, polyisobutylene, an oligomer of 1-octene, an oligomer of 1-decene, an oligomer of 1-dodecene, a comonomer thereof, a copolymer thereof, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 4 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the aliphatic acid amide has an aliphatic carbon chain length of C₁₀ and above.

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Claim 5 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the aliphatic acid amide comprises oleoyl sarcosine.

Claim 6 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the aliphatic acid amide comprises an oleic acid amide of sarcosine.

Claim 7 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the aliphatic acid amide comprises a linear carboxylic acid amide.

Claim 8 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the caustic soda is 10 to 90 weight percent solids in water.

Claim 9 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the caustic soda is about 50 weight percent solids in water.

Claim 10 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the fatty alcohol comprises a C₁₂ or longer alkyl carbon chain.

Claim 11 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the fatty alcohol comprises a mixture of substantially linear fatty alcohols of C₂₀, C₂₂, and C₂₄.

Claim 12 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the fatty alcohol comprises a C₂₀ alcohol.

Claim 13 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the fatty alcohol comprises of at least one alkyl alcohol with a carbon chain of C₁₂ or longer.

Claim 14 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the fatty alcohol is a blend comprising substantially linear fatty alcohols of C₂₀, C₂₂, and C₂₄.

Claim 15 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent comprises an alcohol with a chain length of C₁₀ or less.

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Claim 16 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent comprises butylpropanol.

Claim 17 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent is butylpropanol.

Claim 18 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent is butylethanol.

Claim 19 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent comprises a mixture of alcohols, wherein each alcohol has a chain length of C₁₀ or less.

Claim 20 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent comprises pentylpropanol.

Claim 21 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent comprises propylpropanol.

Claim 22 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the alcohol cosolvent comprises 2-ethyl hexanol.

Claim 23 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein the preservative is isothiazolinone.

Claim 24 (original): The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition comprises:

- a. from about 10 to about 30 weight percent of a poly-alpha-olefin substituted poly(maleic anhydride);
- b. from about 3 to about 10 weight percent of the oleic acid amide of sarcosine;

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- c. from about 3 to about 10 weight percent of caustic soda, 50% solids in water;
- d. from about 1 to about 5 weight percent of a blend of C₂₀-C₂₂ fatty alcohols;
- e. from about 10 to about 20 weight percent butylpropanol;
- f. from about 0.05 to about 1.50 weight percent preservative; and
- g. from about 20 to about 80 weight percent water, all based on the weight of the composition.

Claim 25 (original): The composition of claim 24, wherein:

said poly-alpha-olefin substituted poly(maleic anhydride) is present at about 20 weight percent;

said oleic acid amide of sarcosine is present at about 5.9 weight percent;

said caustic soda is present at about 4.8 weight percent;

said blend of C₂₀-C₂₂ fatty alcohols is present at about 2.7 weight percent;

said butylpropanol is present at about 14.0 weight percent;

said preservative is present at about 0.10 weight percent; and

said water is present at about 52.50 weight percent.

Claim 26 (original): A method for imparting water repellency to leather, said method comprising treating said leather with the composition of claim 1 to impart said water repellency to the leather.

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 26, wherein the leather is contacted with the composition of claim 1 while the leather is in the wet blue stage of leather treatment.

Claim 28 (original): The method of claim 26, wherein the hydrocarbon-substituted carboxylic acid anhydride or the alkali salt thereof is an alkali salt of poly-

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alpha-olefin substituted poly(maleic anhydride) or an alkali salt of a styrene-maleic acid copolymer; and wherein the aliphatic acid amide is the oleic acid amide of sarcosine.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): Treated hide comprising hide treated with the composition of claim 1.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): Treated leather comprising leather treated with the composition of claim 1.

Claim 31 (original): A leather-treating composition comprising:

at least about 10 weight percent of a poly-alpha-olefin substituted poly(maleic anhydride);

at least about 3 weight percent of the oleic acid amide of sarcosine;

at least about 3 weight percent of caustic soda, delivered as 50% sodium hydroxide solids in water;

at least about 1 weight percent of a blend of C₂₀-C₂₂ fatty alcohols;

at least about 10 weight percent butylpropanol;

at least about 0.05 weight percent preservative; and

at least about 20 weight percent water, all based on the total weight percent of the composition.

Claim 32 (original): A composition comprising:

at least about 10 weight percent of a sodium salt of poly-alpha-olefin substituted poly(maleic anhydride);

at least about 3 weight percent of the oleic acid amide of sarcosine;

at least about 1 weight percent of a blend of C₂₀-C₂₂ fatty alcohols;

at least about 10 weight percent butylpropanol;

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at least about 0.05 weight percent preservative; and

at least about 20 weight percent water.

Claim 33 (original): A composition comprising:

at least about 10 weight percent of a potassium salt of poly-alpha-olefin substituted
poly(maleic anhydride);

at least about 3 weight percent of the oleic acid amide of sarcosine;

at least about 1 weight percent of a blend of C₂₀-C₂₂ fatty alcohols;

at least about 10 weight percent butylpropanol;

at least about 0.05 weight percent preservative; and

at least about 20 weight percent water.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A leather-treating polymer composition comprising
at least one ~~hydrocarbon~~ alpha-olefin substituted carboxylic acid anhydride or the alkali
salt thereof.

Claim 35 (original): The leather-treating composition of claim 34, further
comprising at least one aliphatic acid amide or the alkali salt thereof.

Claim 36 (original): The composition of claim 34, wherein the alkali of the alkali
salt is sodium or potassium.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A leather-treating composition comprising an
aqueous solution of an alkali salt of an ~~alphaolefin~~ alpha-olefin substituted-maleic
acid copolymer ~~or an alkali salt of a styrene-maleic acid copolymer.~~

Claim 38 (original): The leather-treating composition of claim 37, further
comprising at least one aliphatic acid amide or the alkali salt thereof.

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Claim 39 (original): The composition of claim 37, wherein the alkali of the alkali salt is sodium or potassium.

Claim 40 (withdrawn): Leather or hide treated by the composition of claim 34.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): Leather or hide treated by the composition of claim 35.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): Leather or hide treated by the composition of claim 36.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): Leather or hide treated by the composition of claim 37.

Claim 44 (withdrawn): Leather or hide treated by the composition of claim 38.

Claim 45 (withdrawn): Leather or hide treated by the composition of claim 39.

Claim 46 (original): A leather treatment composition comprising an aqueous solution of a) an alkali salt of an alphaolefin substituted-maleic acid copolymer or an alkali salt of a styrene-maleic acid copolymer, and b) an oleic acid amide of sarcosine.

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